

Page 9, line 23, after "08/009,076" insert "--, now

B2 U.S. Patent No. 5,266,801--.

Page 32, line 7, change "48" to --42--.

Page 33, line 9, delete "the" (second occurrence).

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 29 and 35, and substitute therefor new Claims 42-48 as follows:

--42. An atomic force microscope comprising:

a scanning mechanism;

a light source;

a cantilever moved by said scanning mechanism so that the cantilever may be scanned over a sample;

[a stylus mounted on said cantilever;]

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an optical assembly comprising focusing means for forming a point source of light between a fixed end and a free end of said scanning mechanism, and at least one steering lens mounted on said scanning mechanism to guide a light beam emitted from said light source onto said cantilever and to follow substantially a fixed point on said cantilever during movement of said scanning mechanism; and

a position detector which receives a reflected light beam from said cantilever and detects a deflection of said cantilever.

43. An atomic force microscope as recited in Claim 42, where said reflected light beam does not pass through said steering lens.

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